

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-05 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 /047 W

-----107052 231310Z /47

R 231118Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO /SECSTATE WASHDC 7553
/DIA, WASHDC
INFO SECDEF WASHDC
HQ USAF WASHDC/CVAF
CNO WASHDC
CS ARMY WASHDC
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON, UK
COMSIXTH FLEET
USCINCEUR, VAIHINGEN, GE
USS NIMITZ

CONFIDENTIAL BUCHAREST 0473

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, RO
SUBJ: AMBASSADOR CALL ON MOD, GEN COMAN (U)
REFS: A. USCINCEUR ECJ3 00613 DTG 131043Z JAN 78 (NOTAL)
B. HQ USAF/CVAF MSG DTG 131345Z JAN 78 (NOTAL)

1. (C) AMBASSADOR, ACCCOMPANIED BY DATT, PAID PROTOCOL CALL ON
GENERAL-COLONEL COMAN AT 1600 HOURS 20 JANUARY. CALL LASTED
ONE HOUR. HIGHLIGHTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:
A. U.S. INVITATION FOR VICE ADMIRAL ULMERANU VISIT TO CONUS
WILL BE FAVORABLY RECEIVED. COMAN RULED OUT ANY VISIT BY
ROMANIAN MILITARY TO VISIT U.S. FORCES IN FRG OR SIXTH
FLEET ELEMENTS (I.E., AS WE READ IT, ANY U.S. MILITARY
FORCE WITH DIRECT NATO AFFILIATION). PREFERENCE IS FOR
STRICTLY BILATERAL ROMANIAN-U.S. MILITARY RELATIONSHIPS.
B. TIMING PREFERENCE FOR AIR FORCE CHIEF ZARNESCU'S VISIT
TO U.S. IS THIS FALL. COMAN STATED ZARNESCU NEW IN JOB
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AND PREFERS MORE VETTING BEFORE VISIT.
C. SHIP VISIT THIS YEAR WILL BE MOST WELCOME. COMAN
ENTHUSIASTICALLY RESPONDED TO AMBASSADOR'S REQUEST THAT
U.S. SAILORS SPEND LIBERTY ALSO IN BUCHAREST AND STATED
HE WOULD BE HAPPY PERSONALLY TO RECEIVE SKIPPER AND OFFICERS
OF VISITING SHIP.
D. COMAN ELABORATED AT GREAT LENGTH ON ROMANIAN MILITARY

ROLE IN SOCIALIST STRUCTURE AND REITERATED ROMANIAN POSITION ON DOING AWAY WITH ALL MILITARY PACTS. STATED MINISTRY OF DEFENSE WOULD BE BUILDING NEW MOD HEADQUARTERS BUILDING THIS YEAR, BUT ADDED OPTIMISTICALLY THAT STRUCTURE WOULD BE SUCH IT COULD EASILY BE CONVERTED TO CIVILIAN USE WHEN PACTS DIS-SOLVE.

2. (C) COMAN WAS IN VERY AFFABLE, RELAXED AND VERBOSE MOOD. MEETING WAS CONDUCTED IN WARM AND FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH MUTUAL ASSURANCES WERE GIVEN THAT FREE AND FRANK DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE HELD ON SUBSTANTIVE TOPICS AT ANY TIME.

3. (C) RECOMMEND ULMANU VISIT PLANNING CONSIDER JUNE TIME FRAME. FOR ZARNESCU VISIT, RECOMMEND SPECIFIC DATES BE FURNISHED EMBASSY FOR EARLY SEPTEMBER. THIS WILL ENABLE US TO PRESENT LETTER TO COMAN WITH DEFINITE DETAILS. SHIP VISIT PLANNING SHOULD BE FOR LATE AUGUST OR EARLY SEPTEMBER TIME FRAME. UNFORTUNATELY, ADMIRAL STEFAN VISIT TO SIXTH FLEET APPEARS TO BE DEAD ISSUE AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, AMBASSADOR LEFT DOOR OPEN WITH STATEMENT THAT SHOULD ROMANIANS DESIRE SUCH VISIT IN FUTURE, CAN BE ARRANGED.

AGGREY

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